

Malcolm X Blvd / Utica Ave Transit Improvements

Community Board 3 Transportation Committee | May 14, 2019



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

1. Project Background
2. Existing Conditions & Analysis
3. Proposal
4. Next Steps

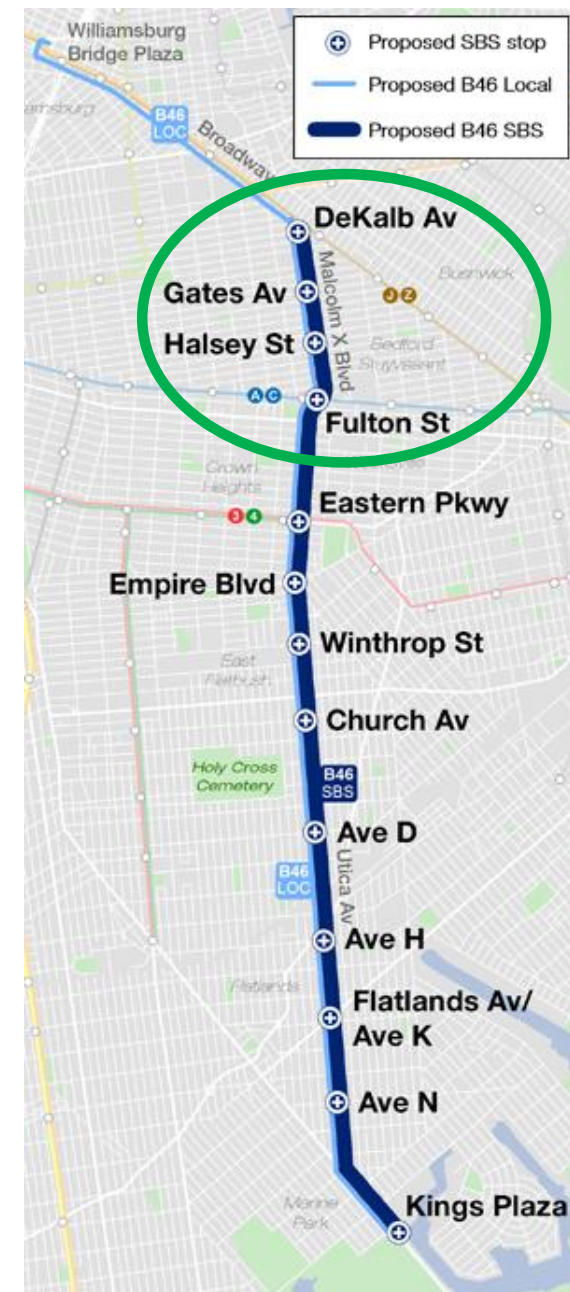


Project Background

1

BACKGROUND: B46 SELECT BUS SERVICE

- B46 is Brooklyn's busiest bus route (38,000 daily riders)
- Connects Bed-Stuy to **3** **4** **A** **C** **J** **Z** and 30 bus routes
- B46 SBS launched in July 2016
- Southbound ridership has increased in Bed-Stuy, but bus speeds have slowed on blocks without bus lanes



CB 3 OUTREACH INITIATIVE

- 5-month outreach effort
 - July-Dec. 2018
- Visited 27 venues in CB 3 based on input from CB 3, elected officials, and stakeholders
- 619 participants took a survey on their transportation needs
- Conversations with 800+ members of the public

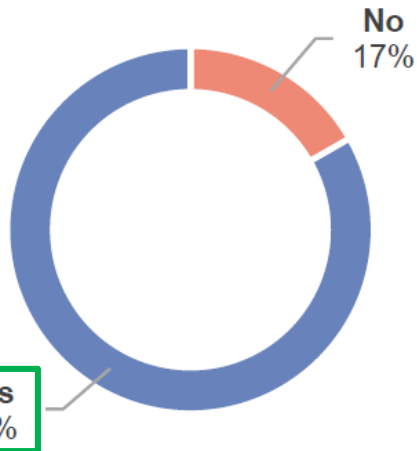


CB 3 OUTREACH INITIATIVE

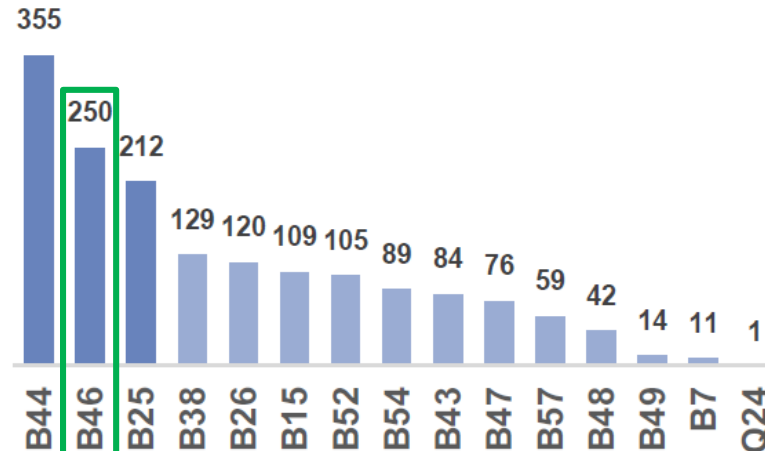
- 83% of respondents regularly ride the bus
- B46 is 2nd most used route



BUS USE



BUS ROUTE USE



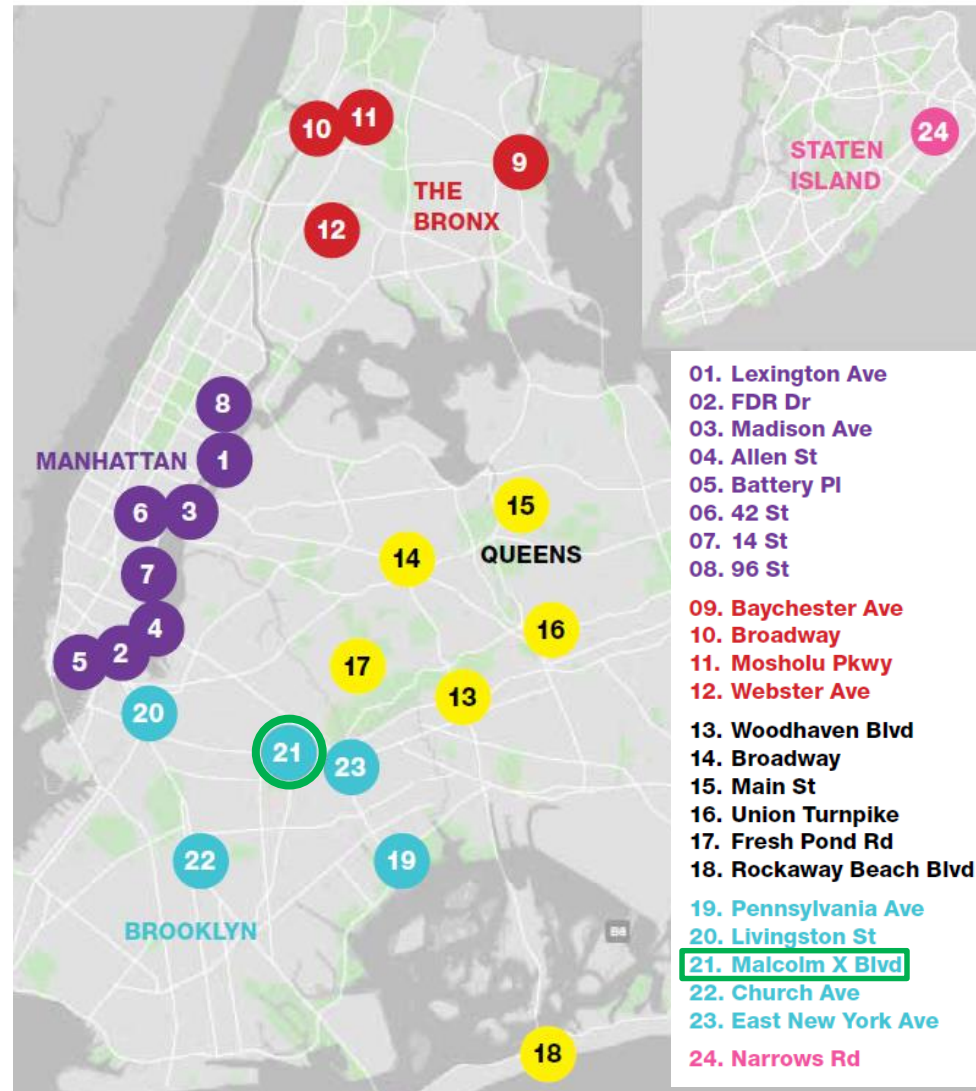
CITYWIDE BUS SPEEDS

- Mayor's 2019 State of the City
 - Improve bus speeds 25% by 2020
- Better Buses Action Plan released April 2019
 - 24 priority projects announced for 2019 to increase bus speeds across all 5 boroughs



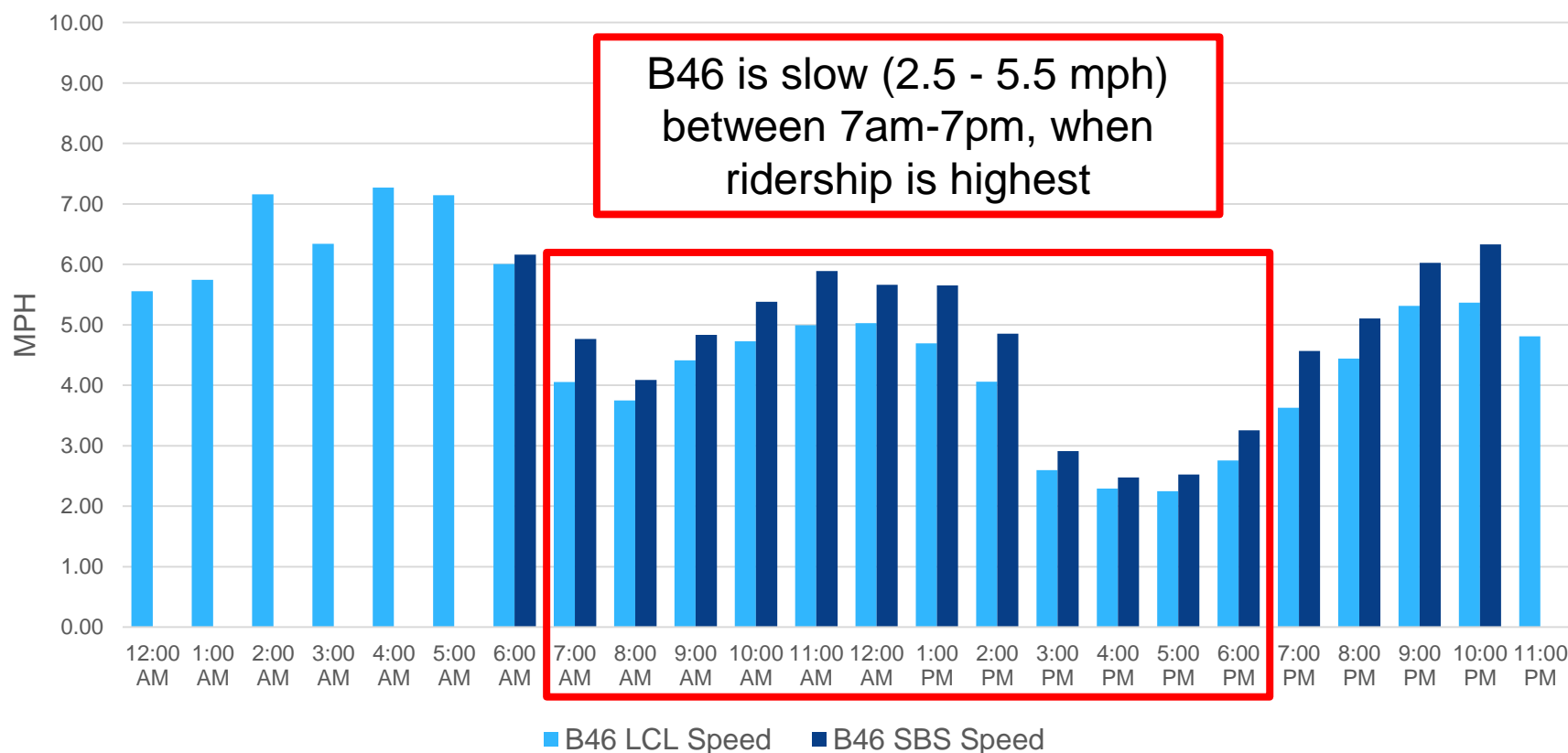
BETTER BUSES ACTION PLAN

- Malcolm X Blvd / Utica Ave identified as 2019 priority project due to:
 - Slow bus speeds: **3.4 mph** during peak, compared to 6.7 mph Brooklyn avg.
 - Unreliable travel times
 - High ridership
 - High volumes of buses: about every 2 minutes per direction during peak



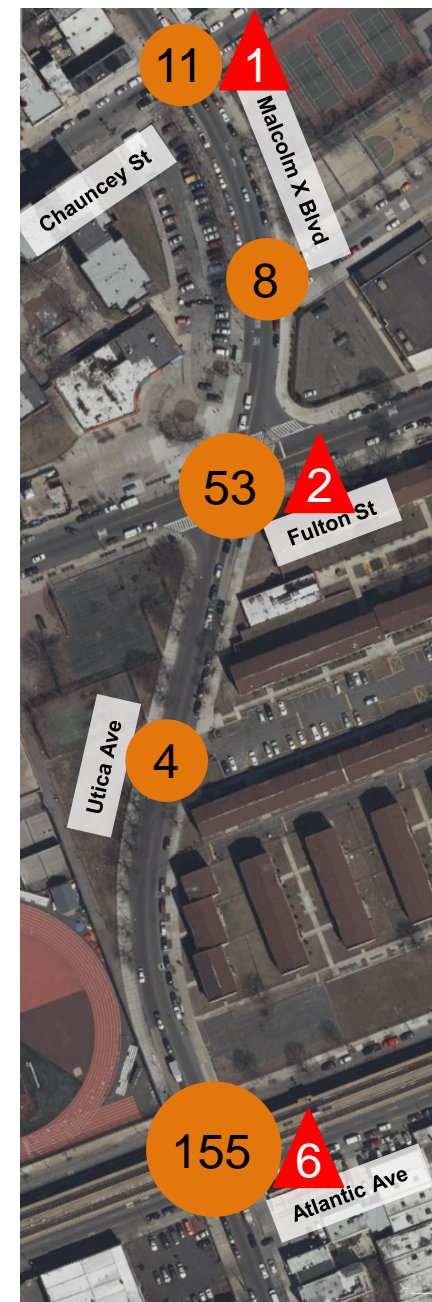
BUS SPEEDS

B46 Southbound Bus Speeds, Chauncey St to Atlantic Ave



SAFETY

- 231 injuries, 9 severely injured (2013-2017)
- Utica Ave & Atlantic Ave: 99th percentile for severe injuries & fatalities



Existing Conditions & Analysis

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EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Chauncey St to Atlantic Ave (both blocks)
 - Fulton St is 2nd busiest B46 stop
 - 3,800 daily boardings
 - Bottleneck approaching Atlantic Ave
 - Southbound traffic backs up from Atlantic Ave to Fulton St and Chauncey St



EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Fulton St to Atlantic Ave
 - Dept. of Education Authorized Parking Only, 7am-4pm Mon-Fri
 - School staff parks on Fulton St and in off-street lot
 - Curb is mostly empty all day, even after DOE-only hours
 - 7am-7pm: average parking occupancy 7%



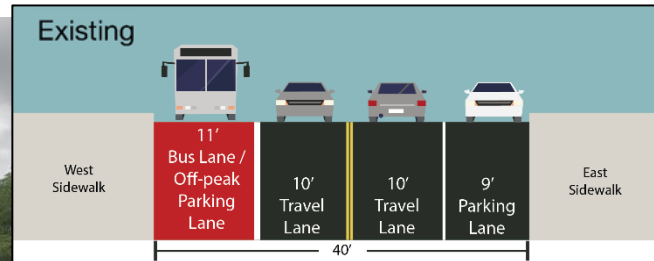
EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Chauncey St to Fulton St
 - Half of block is existing bus stop
 - Southbound traffic backs up from Atlantic Ave onto this block
 - Traffic & parking prevent buses from accessing the stop
 - Buses sometimes board from through lane, causing safety and traffic concerns
 - In 12 hours, 19 vehicles parked on this block



EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Bergen St to Atlantic Ave northbound
 - 3 blocks of bus lanes approaching Atlantic Ave installed in 2016; buses bypass traffic queues
 - Overnight parking remains
 - Bus speeds improved 17-26% during peak

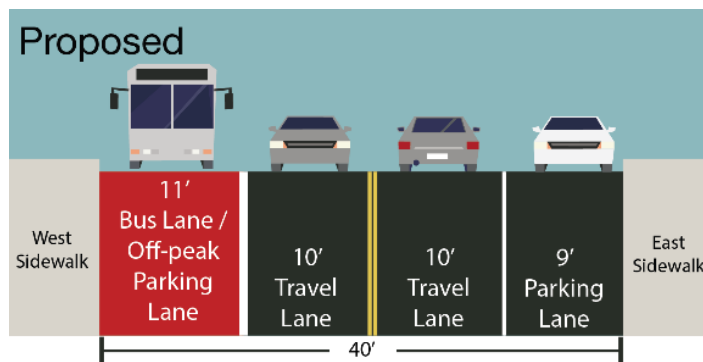
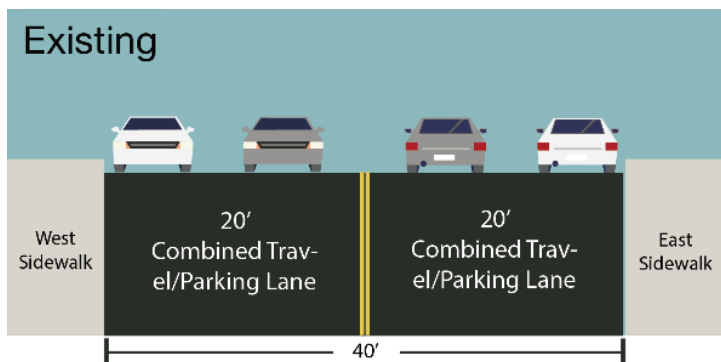


Proposal

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PROPOSAL

- Curbside Bus Lane, Fulton St to Atlantic Ave (*southbound only*)
 - Overnight parking remains
 - Allows buses to bypass traffic approaching Atlantic Ave
 - Improves traffic flow



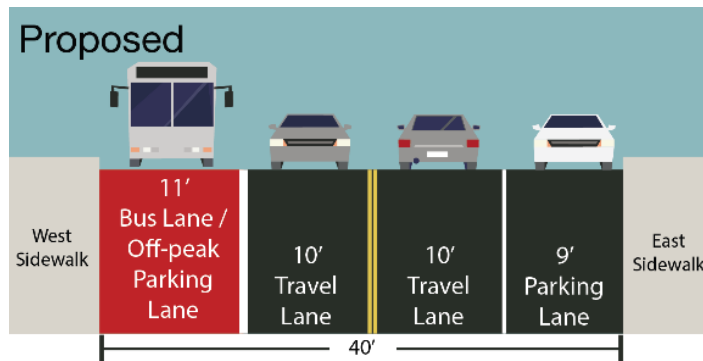
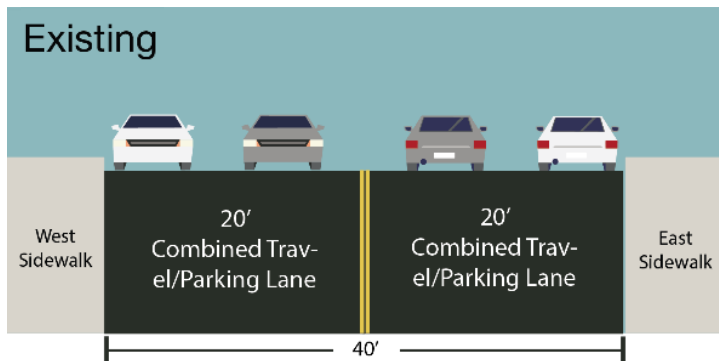
PROPOSAL

- Queue Jump Signal, Utica Ave & Atlantic Ave (northbound & southbound)
 - 7-second head start for buses and pedestrians crossing Atlantic Ave
 - Pedestrian safety improvement on a Vision Zero Priority Corridor



PROPOSAL

- B46 to upgrade to longer, articulated buses in 2019/2020
- After upgrade, install curbside bus lane, Chauncey St to Fulton St (*southbound only*)
 - Overnight parking remains
 - Allows buses to bypass traffic approaching Atlantic Ave
 - Improves traffic flow



Next Steps

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NEXT STEPS

- 2018 – CB 3 Outreach Campaign
- Late 2018 to Early 2019 – Proposal Development
- May 2019 – CB 3 Transportation Committee
- June 2019 – CB 3 Full Board
- Summer 2019 – Implement Fulton St to Atlantic Ave
- 2019/2020 – Upgrade to articulated buses
- TBD – Implement Chauncey St to Fulton St



THANK YOU!

Questions?



NYC DOT



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